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APPLICATION

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TITLE: METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING A PUSH SERVICE

APPLICANT: RONGGAO LI

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METHOD FOR IMPLEMENTING A PUSH SERVICE

Field of the Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to the field of communication, and more specifically, to a method for implementing a Push service.

Background of the Invention

[0002] A Push service is a kind of service of "pushing" information to a subscriber, initiated by a server on its own initiative. A system for implementing a Push service includes three entities: a Push Initiator (PI), a Push Proxy Gateway (PPG) and a Push receiver. Among them, the PI is used to send Push content to the PPG, Push instructions being contained in the Push content; the PPG is used to deliver the content to the Push Receiver according to the Push instructions. As shown in Fig. 1, taking example for WAP Push, the PI is located within the Internet and communicates with the PPG using a Push Access Protocol (PAP); the PPG is an access point between the Internet and a mobile network, which pushes messages to the Push receiver, i.e. the mobile station, using a Push OTA (Over-The-Air) protocol.

[0003] The flow of implementing a Push service can be described as follows.

[0004] A. The PI pushes a message to the PPG: when the PI detecting there is a message needs to be pushed to the mobile station, the PI first constructing a Push message according to the content and nature of the message, and sending a Push request to the PPG using the PAP.

[0005] B. The PPG processes the Push message: after receiving the request, the PPG performing some necessary processing including

compression, protocol conversion, security authentication and so on, and then transferring the Push message to the mobile station using the OTA protocol.

[0006] C. The mobile station processes the received Push message: after receiving the Push message, the mobile station interacting with the PPG according to the content of the message and the type of the service.

[0007] When a Push message is to be carried by a short message, for example, when the Push content is to be transferred by a Service Indication (SI), Service Loading (SL) or Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS) notify message, after the Push content has been encoded into a binary code stream in the PPG module of Wireless Application Protocol Gateway (WAP GW), if the total data volume exceeds 140 bytes, it will be spilt into multiple short messages so as to be delivered to the mobile phone. These multiple short messages are scheduled in the Short Message Service Center (SMSC) as common short messages without any relationship thereamong, and at this point, if any one of these multiple short messages is delivered unsuccessfully, the SMSC will schedule and send it over again. Therefore, when these multiple short messages arrive at the mobile station, it is possible that the mobile station can not normally recombine these multiple short messages because of a long time interval, and the transmission of the Push content is thus unsuccessful.

[0008] An example of the Push content is an MMS m-notification-ind message. After the MMS m-notification-ind message has been encoded in the PPG, two short messages are needed to carry it, and abnormal delivery of either of the short messages will result in failure in sending of the MMS m-notification-ind message.

[0009] In the related art, a Push service is implemented by making use of an SMSC shared with other services to bear a WAP Push message. The flow thereof is shown in Fig. 2.

[0010] A1. The Push Initiator (PI)/Multimedia Message Service Center (MMSC) submits a Push message to the PPG.

[0011] B1. The PPG returns a response to the Push message.

[0012] C1. The PPG resolves the PAP and analyzes the Push message. Because the data volume of a Push message is more than 140 bytes, the PPG segments the Push message, i.e. divides one Push message into multiple short messages and submits them to the SMSC.

[0013] D1.The SMSC receives the multiple messages and returns a Submission Response Message to the PPG for each message; the SMSC performs message scheduling for the received messages in a store and forward mode.

[0014] E1. The SMSC detects each of the messages, and performs timeout and resend according to a predetermined strategy, i.e. if one of the messages is sent unsuccessfully, the SMSC resends this message according to a resending mechanism; and after the sending has been finished, the SMSC makes and feedbacks a Status Report Message to the PPG.

[0015] F1. After receiving the multiple messages, the mobile station recombines them because they belong to one and the same Push message.

[0016] The technical solution of implementing Push service by making use of an SMSC shared with other services to bear a WAP Push message may have one or more than one of the following disadvantages.

[0017] 1. Since it is required to make use of an SMSC shared with other services to bear a WAP Push short message, the SMSC undertakes tasks of transmitting all the short messages, such as a point-to-point short

message, a Monternet short message, a WAP Push short message and so on; the SMSC does not distinguish among all the short messages, but performs scheduling in terms of one short message. When the whole network system is relatively busy, once any network element of the wireless network, the No.7 signaling network is congested, the Push message will be delivered unsuccessfully.

[0018] 2. The SMSC schedules the short messages in a store and forward mode, and the PPG needs to segment the Push message of more than 140 bytes, thus it will take a relatively long time interval for the multiple segmented Push messages to be delivered to the mobile station, which possibly results in the mobile station unsuccessfully recombining the multiple short messages because of time-out.

[0019] 3. The Push service has a higher failure rate, which will reduce a subscriber's experience of WAP Push service.

[0020] 4. The Push service has a longer time delay, which will also reduce a subscriber's experience of WAP Push service.

Summary of the Invention

[0021] In view of this, an object of the present invention is to provide a method for implementing a Push service, so as to solve the problems of low delivery success rate and long time delay of a Push message in the prior art.

[0022] A method for implementing a Push service according to an embodiment of the invention includes the following steps:

[0023] a Push Initiator (PI) sending a Push message to a Short Message Service Center (SMSC) through a Push Proxy Gateway (PPG);

[0024] the SMSC segmenting the Push message to obtain a group of short messages, and scheduling the group of short messages in a transaction mode and delivering them to the mobile station;

[0025] after receiving the group of short messages, the mobile station recombining them into an integral message.

[0026] The transaction mode refers to continuously sending in a predetermined time a group of short messages obtained by segmenting, and resending one or more of the messages when they are sent unsuccessfully.

[0027] If all the short messages of the group obtained by segmenting are sent successfully in a predetermined time, the Short Message Service Center returns an Acknowledgement Message to the PPG, and the PPG sends a Result Notify Message to the Push Initiator according to the Acknowledgement Message.

[0028] If any one of the short messages of the group obtained by segmenting is sent unsuccessfully in a predetermined time, the Short Message Service Center returns a Submission Failure Message to the PPG, and the PPG sends a Result Notify message to the Push Initiator according to the Submission Failure Message.

[0029] After sending the Push message to the Short Message Service Center, the PPG suspends the present transaction to wait for the processing result thereof from the Short Message Service Center and continues to process the next transaction.

[0030] The Short Message Service Center is specially used to bear a Push service.

[0031] The Short Message Service Center is arranged separately or integrated in a WAP gateway.

[0032] In the invention, there is no need for the PPG to segment a large Push message, and the PPG directly submits a Push message to the SMSC as one message; the SMSC supports a transaction mode and returns an Short Message service (SMS) delivery result to the PPG immediately; the PPG need not to make and submit a status report, which improves the success rate of the Push message. The present invention can also arrange a separate and special SMSC, providing an end-to-end Push service response, which further improves the success rate of the Push message; PUSH adopting an end-to-end service flow reduces the time delay of the Push message.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0033] Fig.1 is a schematic diagram illustrating a system in the related art.

[0034] Fig.2 is a schematic diagram illustrating the flow in the related art.

[0035] Fig.3 is a schematic diagram illustrating the flow according to an embodiment of the invention.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

[0036] The invention bears a Push service through an SMSC supporting a transaction mode. When the Push Initiator (PI) detects there is a message needs to be pushed to the mobile station, the PI first constructs a Push message according to the content and nature of the message, and then submits the Push message to the PPG. The PPG does not judge whether the message is of more than 140 bytes and submits the Push message to the SMSC directly. The SMSC segments the Push message into a group of short messages and delivers them to the mobile station. The SMSC

schedules the group of short messages using the transaction mode of the SMPP and delivers them to the mobile station, and directly returns a delivery result to the PPG in a Submission Response Message. Thus the PPG can get the delivery result of the Push message through the Submission Response Message, and there is no need for the SMSC to make a Status Report Message and feedback it to the PPG.

[0037] In this embodiment, taking example for WAP Push, the operation mode between a Push Initiator SP and a subscriber is an interactive transaction mode, i.e. the Push service can be implemented only after receiving a response from the subscriber. As shown in Fig. 3, the flow is detailed as the following.

[0038] 1. When the Push Initiator SP detects there is a message needs to be pushed to the mobile station, the SP first constructs a Push message according to the content and nature of the message, and then sends a Push request to the PPG/WAP GW using the PAP.

[0039] 2. The PPG/WAP GW returns a Submission Acknowledgement Response to the SP.

[0040] 3. The PPG/WAP GW adopts a real-time mechanism without segmenting the content of the Push message; after bearing the Push message, the PPG/WAP GW submits the Push message to the SMSC and suspends the present transaction to wait for the SMSC to confirm the processing of this transaction; and at the same time, the PPG/WAP GW continues to process the next WAP Push transaction.

[0041] 4-7. After receiving the Push message, the SMSC segments it to obtain a group of short messages according to the content of the message. As shown in the figure, the Push message is segmented into a message group composed of short message 1 and short message 2, and the group of short messages is delivered to the mobile station. The SMSC schedules

the group of short messages in a transaction mode, ensuring the group of short messages can be sent continuously in a predetermined time or under predetermined conditions; even if a certain short message of the group is sent unsuccessfully, the SMSC will resend the message in a very short time.

[0042] 8. Only after having sent the whole group of short messages to the mobile station, the SMSC returns a processing result of the present short message transaction to the PPG/WAP GW through a Submission Acknowledgement Message.

[0043] 9. The PPG/WAP sends a Result Notify Request to the SP.

[0044] 10. The SP returns a Result Notify Response.

[0045] 11. After the mobile station has acknowledged the Push content, the mobile phone activates the GPRS network and extracts the corresponding information content on the appointed Uniform Resource Locator (URL).

[0046] 12. The WAP GW forwards a request to the SP according to the URL.

[0047] 13. The SP accepts the request, and the content server returns the information content to the PPG/WAP GW.

[0048] 14. The PPG/WAP GW forwards the information content to the mobile station so as to accomplish the Push service.

[0049] In the above flow, when the SMSC schedules the short message group in the transaction mode, if, in the predetermined time or under the predetermined conditions, one or more messages of the group are delivered unsuccessfully, the SMSC returns a submission failure result to the PPG/WAP GW, the PPG/WAP GW forwards the failure result to the SP, and the flow ends.

[0050] In the invention, a WAP Push service can be born by arranging a special SMSC which specially takes charge of the bearing of a Push service, or part of the resources of the SMSC is reserved to specially process a Push service. Thus, the WAP GW/PPG can obtain a real-time processing result of the present WAP Push transaction and resend the failed WAP Push, which reduces the end-to-end time delay and thereby further improves the success rate of a WAP Push message. The SMSC can be arranged separately or integrated in a WAP GW system.